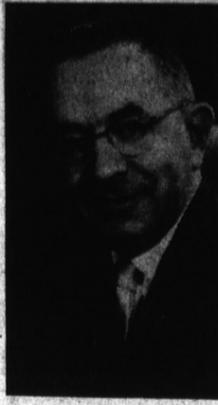


# Seven Candidates Seek School Board Seat



DR. KURT T. SHERY

**Dr. Kurt Shery**  
Seeking his second full term on the Torrance Board of Education is Kurt T. Shery, M.D. Dr. Shery was appointed to the board in 1961 and elected to his first full term in 1963.

Dr. Shery said he will continue to call on his education and experience in the field of counseling and special services to provide quality education for a price we can afford.

Of particular concern to him, Dr. Shery said, is expansion of art, music, and other cultural programs in the schools for all students.

Major accomplishments during his past term, Dr. Shery said, include an annual savings of some \$500,000 "without curtailing the educational program," departmentalization of the seventh and eighth grades, graded report cards for all students, new emphasis on American heritage and on remedial reading and spelling programs, and the initiation of vocational programs designed to give high school graduates a "marketable skill" on graduation.

His chief concern, Dr. Shery said, is to keep the schools "in the hands of the people."

Dr. Shery is a member of the Torrance Kiwanis Club, the Torrance Family YMCA, and active in programs for the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and the Foreign Student Exchange program. He is a past chief-of-staff at Torrance Memorial Hospital.

A physician and surgeon in Torrance for the past 20 years, he was educated in Germany and at Columbia University in New York.

phasis on the basic skills, remedial reading, departmentalization in the seventh and eighth grades, counseling services, and American heritage programs in the schools.

She also has called for a "school climate that will attract the best teachers" and pledged to work "to maintain fair treatment and fair salaries for employes" of the Torrance schools.

The city's Citizen of the Year in 1962, Mrs. Watts is a member of the Advisory Committee of the California State College at Dominguez Hills, the Riviera Homeowners Association, the Torrance League of Women Voters, and the Torrance Family YMCA.

She also is active in PTA work and is an honorary member of the PTA. Mrs. Watts also is a member of the South Bay Council of Girl Scouts camp committee.

### John Abshear

Tax credits to encourage parents to send their children to private schools have been proposed by John R. Abshear in his campaign for the Torrance Board of Education.

Abshear, who views the problems of taxes and textbook selection as the major issues of the campaign, has suggested that taxes can be cut only by reducing spending. To achieve a reduction in spending, he has proposed that the number of children attending public schools be reduced by encouraging them to attend private schools.

He also has called for the establishment of a voluntary textbook review committee which would recommend textbooks to local boards of education.

Abshear, 37, is a veteran of four years in the Navy. He and his wife, Beatrice, are parents of four children ranging in age from 5 to 16 years. The family lives at 19005 Anza Ave.

A Torrance resident for 12 years, Abshear is active in the Knights of Columbus, the Southern California Umpires Association, Tordondo Little League, Toastmasters International, and the Torrance TACT (Truth About Civil Turmoil) Committee.

He is a graduate of El Camino College and currently is employed as an engineering aide.

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ARNOLD A. KATZ

**Arnold Katz**  
Improved communications between the Torrance Board of Education and the public has been called for by Arnold A. Katz in his bid for a seat on the board.

Katz, 42, said this goal could be achieved through wide public distribution of a digest of proceedings of all board meetings.

A Torrance resident for nine years, Katz is a native of Boston, Mass. He and his wife have four children who are between 3 and 9 years old. The family lives at 22803 Fern Ave.

"I have no political axe to grind," Katz said, "and absolutely no personal benefit to gain. A better job, I think, can be and has to be done by people professionally equipped to do it."

Katz has called for a "balanced spending program" and for closer ties between the Board of Education and the Torrance City Council in such areas as zoning, planning for new schools, and recreation activities.

He is employed as a contract administrator by North American Aviation's Space and Information Division. Division, Katz is a veteran of the Navy and served during World War II in the Pacific. He was a member of the Citizens Committee of 100 which worked for the school bond issue last November and is president of the Hickory Homeowners Association.

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JOHN D. KIRBY

**John D. Kirby**  
John D. Kirby, one of seven candidates in next Tuesday's election for the Torrance Board of Education, has called for a crackdown on narcotics offenders in and around school.

Kirby, who will be listed on the ballot as an anti-narcotics educator, wants a classroom program designed to inform high school youths of the dangers of using drugs such as marijuana and LSD.

Once such a program has been conducted, Kirby said, the schools should serve notice that any student "found in possession of or under the influence of any drug or narcotic should be subject to permanent expulsion from school."

Kirby also has called for a "hard second look" at the Torrance district's participation in the Southern California Regional Occupational Center. He said he feels the "present board jumped a little too quickly" and is fearful

the center "could become a dumping ground for potential dropouts."

The father of a 14-year-old daughter and a 16-year-old son, Kirby lives at 1812 Plaza del Amo. He is a veteran of the Army, having served in Europe from 1943-45. He is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and is the current adjutant and senior vice commander of the South Bay chapter 380 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Kirby is the executive secretary of the American Institute of Narcotics Education and chairman of a statewide campaign to increase penalties for narcotics violations known as Project Punishment.

### JA Firms Will Hold Trade Fair

Twenty-six Junior Achievement companies from the Southwest Business Center will join 25 other JA firms from the Western District of Los Angeles in the first Junior Achievement Trade Fair-Sales Day Saturday.

The event is scheduled in Hawthorne and is open to all JA firms in the area extending from Santa Monica to Long Beach. Participating in the Hawthorne Trade-Sales Fair will be students from Bishop Montgomery, Serra, Torrance, North, and West high schools.

His chief object, Peters said, will be "to influence school curriculum so that students may learn the true moral values and with their academic achievements may become real assets in our society."

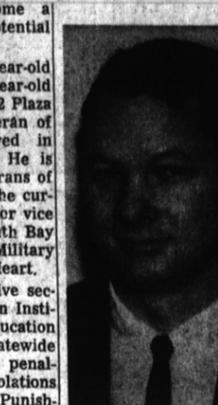
Peters is married and the father of four children ranging in age from 9 to 15 years. A veteran of the Navy, he served four years during the Korean War.

He is also a member of the Torrance Family YMCA and is active in the Boy Scouts, Little League baseball, the Bishop Montgomery High School's Men's Boosters Club, and the St. Catherine Labouré CCD. Peters also served on the Citizens Committee of 100 which worked last November for the successful passage of a \$9 million school bond.

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JIM PETERS

**Jim Peters**  
Renewed emphasis on "moral and ethical principles" is the chief goal of Jim Peters if he wins a seat on the Torrance Board of Education next Tuesday.

Peters, 35, is making his first bid for public office. A resident of Torrance for 10 years, he now lives at 3747 W. 168th St.

"The present school board has not given the leadership or direction to our schools that is necessary in our complex society," Peters said. "The separation of church and state is a part of our national heritage, however, the separation of God and education is not part of this heritage."

John Tofflemire (No information available)

### Candidates To Speak

All seven candidates for the Board of Education in next Tuesday's election have been invited to speak this evening at a "Know Your Candidates" meeting to be held at the Torrance Recreation Center.

The meeting, being sponsored by the Torrance League of Women Voters, will begin at 8 p.m. Mrs. Leonard B. Farrell will be moderator.

A Candidates' Questionnaire prepared by the League of Women Voters will be distributed at the meeting.

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PAULINE (POLLY) WATTS

**Pauline Watts**  
Mrs. Pauline (Polly) Watts, now seeking her second term on the Torrance Board of Education, has offered a 10-point program for the Torrance schools.

Mrs. Watts, first elected to the board in April, 1963, as a housewife who has lived in Torrance for more than 20 years. Her husband, Kenneth, operates a sail making firm here.

Major points in her program include continued em-

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